AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11 (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) A control arm assembly for use with a lawn mowing apparatus having a variable speed mechanism which provides propulsion to the lawn mowing apparatus, ~~the lawn mowing apparatus also having a body, a transmission which is operatively connected to a drive axle, a shaft, and rotating means for rotating the shaft, the variable speed mechanism having a variable pitch pulley assembly, pulley connecting means for operatively connecting the variable pitch pulley assembly to the transmission and, selective adjusting means for selectively adjusting the control arm assembly, the variable pitch pulley assembly having first and second pulley halves, the second pulley half being selectively movable along the length of the shaft, the pulley connecting means fitting between said first and second pulley halves, the control arm assembly for moving the second pulley half along the length of the shaft,~~ the control arm assembly comprising:

a control arm having first and second ends and an opening, said second end of said control arm being pivotably connected to [[the]] a body portion of the lawnmower, said first end of said control arm being operatively connected to [[the]] a selective adjusting means for adjusting the speed of the lawnmower, and said opening configured to receive a bearing cup of a pulley half of said variable speed mechanism mounted on [[the]] a shaft rotatably received within said opening ~~in said control arm~~, wherein movement of the first end of the control arm by said selective adjusting means causes the control arm to pivot at said second end so as to selectively position the pulley half in the bearing cup mounted in said opening along the shaft passing through said opening.

13. (Original) The control arm assembly of claim 12 wherein the control arm assembly further comprises: a pivot shaft, said pivot shaft being operatively connected to said

second end of said control arm, said control arm pivoting about said pivot shaft; and, a pivot bracket, said pivot bracket being fixedly connected to the body, said pivot bracket supporting said pivot shaft.

14. (Currently amended) The control arm assembly of claim 12 wherein the control arm has a first side for contacting said ~~variable pitch pulley assembly~~ bearing cup, said first [[said]] side of said control arm having a contoured surface for even wear of said ~~variable pitch pulley assembly~~ bearing cup.

15. (Currently amended) The control arm assembly of claim 14 wherein said control arm has a second side for contacting said ~~variable pitch pulley assembly~~ bearing cup, said second side having a contoured surface for even wear of said ~~variable pitch pulley assembly~~ bearing cup.

16. (Currently amended) A control arm assembly for use with a lawn mowing apparatus having a variable speed mechanism which provides propulsion to the lawn mowing apparatus, ~~the lawn mowing apparatus also having a body, a transmission which is operatively connected to a drive axle, a shaft, and rotating means for rotating the shaft, the variable speed mechanism having a variable pitch pulley assembly, pulley connecting means for operatively connecting the variable pitch pulley assembly to the transmission and, selective adjusting means for selectively adjusting the control arm assembly, the variable pitch pulley assembly having first and second pulley halves, the second pulley half being selectively movable along the length of the shaft, the pulley connecting means fitting between said first and second pulley halves, the control arm assembly for moving the second pulley half along the length of the shaft,~~ the control arm assembly comprising:

a control arm having first and second ends and an opening, said second end of said control arm being pivotably connected to [[the]] a body portion of the lawnmower, said first end of said control arm being operatively connected to [[the]] a selective adjusting means for adjusting the speed of the lawnmower, and said opening configured to receive a bearing cup of a pulley half of said variable speed mechanism mounted on [[the]] a shaft rotatably received within said opening ~~in said control arm,~~

a pivot shaft, said pivot shaft being operatively connected to said second end of said control arm, said control arm pivoting about said pivot shaft;

a pivot bracket, said pivot bracket being fixedly connected to the lawnmower body, said pivot bracket supporting said pivot shaft, and,

a torsion spring for biasing said control arm about said pivot shaft, said torsion spring having first and second ends, said second end of said torsion spring being operatively connected to said pivot bracket, said first end of said torsion spring being operatively connected to said control arm, said pivot shaft received within said torsion spring;

wherein movement of the first end of the control arm by said selective adjusting means causes the control arm to pivot about the pivot shaft so as to selectively position the pulley half in the bearing cup mounted in said opening of the control arm along the shaft passing through said opening.